

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Southern District of Texas

United States Courts
Southern District of Texas
FILED

March 21, 2025

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk of Court

United States of America

v.

Christian Fletes-Espinoza aka Cristian Espinoza aka
Cristian Alberto Fletes-EspinozaCase No. **4:25-mj-169**

Defendant(s)

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the date(s) of November 24, 2024 in the county of Harris in the
Southern District of Texas, the defendant(s) violated:

Code Section

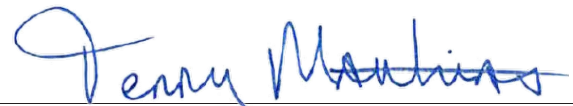
8 U.S.C. § 1326 (a) and (b)

Offense Description

Illegal re-entry into the United States after having previously been deported to Honduras, subsequent to having been convicted of a crime defined as an felony, without first applying for and obtaining permission from the Attorney General of the United States, or the Secretary for the Department of Homeland Security, for admission to the United States following deportation from the United States, in violation of Title 8, United States Code, Section(s) 1326(a) and (b).

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

See Attached Affidavit in support of the Criminal Complaint

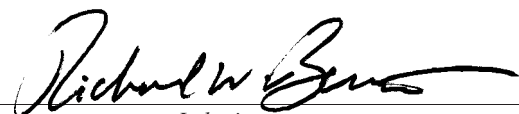
☐ Continued on the attached sheet.

Complainant's signature

Terry Matthias, ICE Deportation Officer

Printed name and title

Sworn to me telephonically.

Date: 03/21/2025

Judge's signature

City and state: Houston, Texas

Richard W. Bennett, United States Magistrate Judge

Printed name and title

4:25-mj-169

AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, Terry Matthias, being duly sworn by telephone, hereby depose and say:

(1) I am a Deportation Officer with the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”) and have served in that capacity since June 24, 2007. Prior to this assignment, I have held the following positions: Customs and Border Protection Officer and Immigration Enforcement Agent. My law enforcement career began July 2006, as a Customs and Border Protection Officer. I have over 18 years of immigration law enforcement experience.

(2) On March 20, 2025, at approximately 2328 hrs., Fletes-Espinoza, Christian was detained by ICE. The defendant also goes by the alias of Cristian Espinoza and Cristian Alberto Fletes-Espinoza.

(3) The Defendant’s fingerprints have been taken and electronically submitted to various law enforcement databases. According to the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS), the Defendant is the same individual as the person referred to in this Affidavit as having been previously convicted and deported.

(4) Based upon the information from ICE’s records as described below, and my training and experience, I submit that there is probable cause to believe that the Defendant is in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1326(a) and (b).

(5) Element One: The Defendant is a citizen and national of Honduras and not a native, citizen or national of the United States.

(6) Element Two: The Defendant has previously been deported or removed from the United States on the following occasion(s):

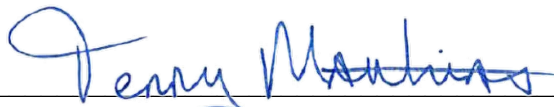
- a. 08/12/2022.
- b. 08/08/2022.
- c. 03/28/2022.
- d. 03/22/2022.
- e. 02/15/2022.
- f. 06/08/2020.

(7) Element Three: After deportation, the Defendant was subsequently found in the United States on November 24, 2024, in Harris County, Texas, which is within the Houston Division Southern District of Texas. Additionally, I consulted with ICE's Law Enforcement Support Center ("LESC") to determine whether, in the past five years and after the Defendant's last deportation, the Defendant had been encountered by law enforcement prior to the date specified earlier in this paragraph. On March 21, 2025, LESC advised me that it had no record of such an encounter.

(8) Element Four: The Defendant did not have permission to reenter the United States. On March 21, 2025, I reviewed the contents of the Alien File associated with this Defendant and/or available database information. I found no indication that the Defendant has ever received permission from the Attorney General of the United States, or the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, to apply for admission to the United States following deportation from the United States. I have requested certification of this fact from the Records Branch of the Immigration Service.

(9) Prior Criminal History / Gang Affiliation. The Defendant has the following prior criminal history and/or gang affiliation:

- a. On March 16, 2020, the Defendant, using the name of Cristian Espinoza was convicted in the 230th District Court, Harris County, TX for the offense of ROBBERY and was sentenced to 5 years Deferred Adjudication Community Supervision. Case No. 163854901010.



Terry Matthias, Deportation Officer
United States Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement

Signed and sworn telephonically before me this 21st day of March 2025, and I find probable cause.



Hon. Richard W. Bennett
United States Magistrate Judge
Southern District of Texas